THE DRUMBEAT
Student media since 1927
Tyler Junior College

Vol. 89 | Issue 4 | October 9 - October 22, 2020

FAFSA opens for 2021-22 term

By Madison Heiser
Editor-in-Chief

The 2021-22 Free Application for Federal Student Aid opened on Oct. 1. The application is available to all college students in search of grants, loans and work-study opportunities for the coming school year.

According to the financial aid page on the Tyler Junior College website, the deadline to complete the FAFSA for fall 2021 classes is April 1. For spring 2022 classes, the FAFSA must be completed by Aug. 1. TJC (school code 003648) must be listed on the application in order to receive financial aid from the college.

To complete the FAFSA, students must visit studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa. The current application uses 2019 tax information to determine financial aid eligibility. If a student is the dependent of a parent

Financial Aid on Page 2

Paving the road to achievement

Academic Success Coaching drives students toward goals

By Sorayda Rivera
Student Life Editor

Tyler Junior College's Academic Success Coaching provides students with a personal success coach to aid students toward a victorious academic journey.

Academic Success Coaching is a fairly new program at TJC. It's a free service for students where faculty and staff serve as academic coaches. The program's mission is to create an environment that supports students in achieving their academic goals.

Lauren Tyler, director of Student Life, referenced a quote from Dr. Juan Mejia, TJC president, that states "save the challenge for the classroom."

"The challenge should be with the rigor of your class, not getting to the class," Tyler said.

Students will work with their success coaches on things like goal planning, time management, study skills, healthy habits and more.

Tyler said coaches are like an accountability partner that students can talk to and sit down with to help set and accomplish academic and personal goals. Whatever the student's goal might be, whether it be to make healthier habits or a B on a test, an academic success coach can point students in the appropriate direction.

Academic Success Coaching is not a replacement for tutoring or advising, Tyler added. "The point is to give a personal coach that can meet with the student and provide that connection to campus to help them," Tyler said.

The only requirement for this program is that students meet with their coaches at least once a month. Tyler said they want to make this program accessible to as many students as possible.

"We're constantly recruiting coaches because we see the need growing," Tyler said. "I mean I've had a lot of students contact me this week."

With midterms coming up, Tyler said they are seeing an increase in students requesting help.

Academic Success Coaching had to revamp and rethink their game plan to accommodate students throughout COVID-19. One of the changes is in how students and coaches meet. When the program began, students were asked to come in person, but now the option is available for coaching calls to be done via Zoom.

"The nice thing is we have the tools so we can meet virtually," Tyler said.

For more information on how to get started, contact (903) 510-2797, or search for Academic Success Coaching on tjc.edu.

Graphic by Madison Heiser

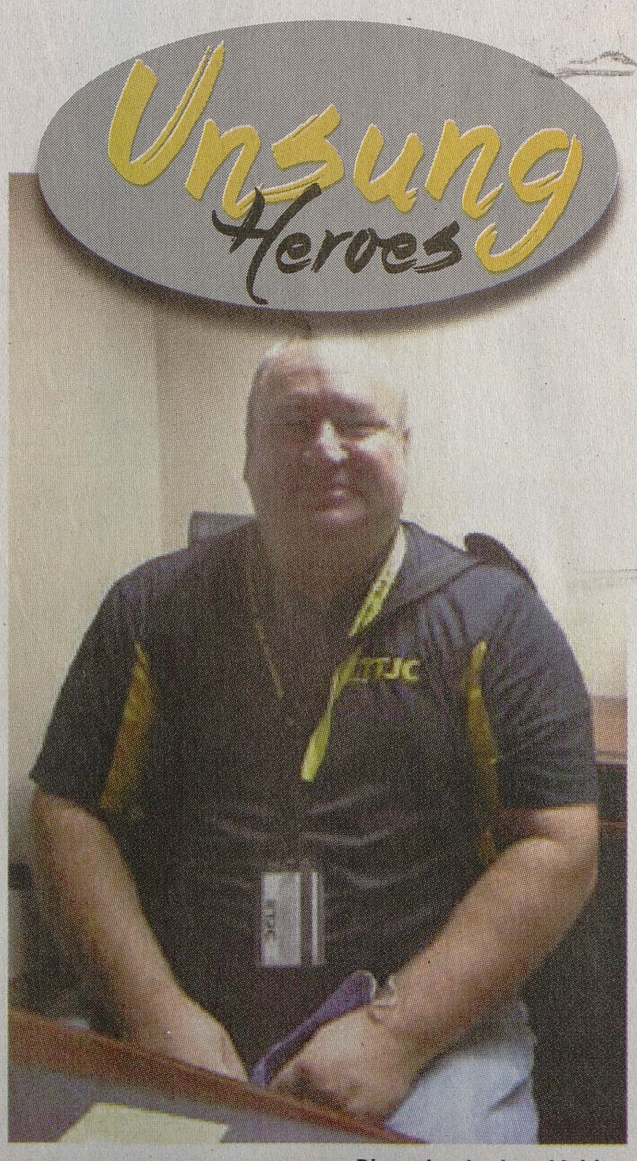


Photo by Andrea Valdez

This is the second feature in a series highlighting the "unsung heroes" of TJC. Jeff Hassett, chief information officer, was selected for his work in the IT department.

Chief information officer maintains smooth technological operations

By Andrea Valdez
Broadcast News Director

Over the summer, while most students were quarantining at home trying to make light of a difficult time, some students dedicated their time to tackling online summer classes. Often with online classes, there tends to be some bumps in the road with technology. That is when students turn to the Information Technology Department for help. Jeff Hassett, chief information officer for the IT Department, is one of the unsung heroes working behind he scenes to keep things running.

Hassett has his Bachelor of Science in business management and a Master of Business Administration, both from the University of Utah. "Since there was not a lot of degrees in information systems 30+ years ago, we had to kind of create our own," Hassett said. "While getting my undergraduate degree in business, I took computer science courses for more technology."

Hassett has been working in the IT Department for 15 months as the CIO and his duties include overseeing the strategic and operational aspects of technology at TJC. Prior to working for TJC, Hassett worked for a private college in Idaho called BYU-Idaho where he was the Chief Information Officer and Chief Information Security Officer.

TJC's IT department came back to work during the pandemic to provide services and offer assistance with technological issues to those who needed it.

Since TJC students, faculty and staff have relied heavily on technology for their schoolwork or day-to-day business, the IT department has been hard at work to ensure everything is taken care of.

"For our department, the pandemic really adjusted our priorities," Hassett said. "We have stayed working on campus since spring break because much of our work requires us to be very hands on with the technology."

This pandemic has affected the wellbeing of everyone from an emotional and mental standpoint, and the IT department is no exception.

"It definitely has been an emotional strain. The strain can impact your positive mental state for sure," Hassett said. "IT jobs can be very stressful and with all the restrictions that have been put in place, our normal avenues to unwind have not been readily available."

Looking back to where the IT department was before the pandemic, comparing it to now, Hassett said not much has changed in the role; however, it created a need to be flexible with their projects.

"When getting ready for fall and trying to figure out the needs for in-person classes, we ended up having to turn a lot of non-teaching spaces into classrooms," Hassett said.

When Hassett is not working in the IT department he enjoys sports, especially golf. "It gives me a chance to unwind for a few hours and enjoy being outdoors," Hassett said. "My wife and I also love to take long drives out in the country."

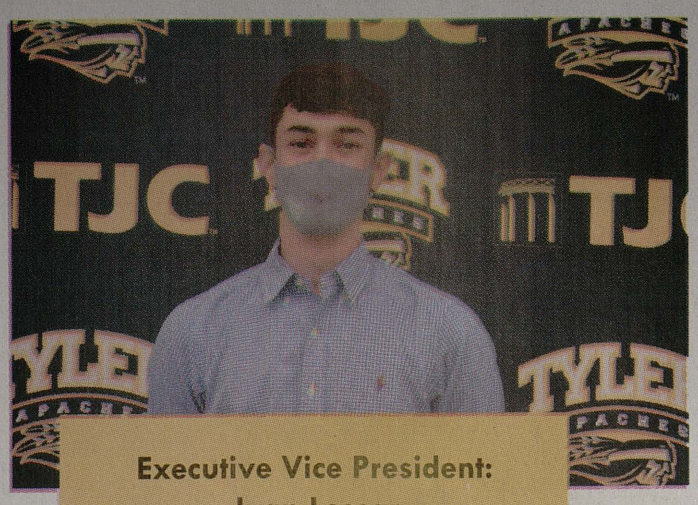
Kaytee Hassell, director of IT security, said Hassett, "continually goes above and beyond, ensuring OTS is providing the best technology to enable our faculty and staff to educate and serve the needs of our students."

Hassett believes every job at TJC is important to the success of the students at TJC.

"Without each department doing their part, TJC cannot be successful," Hassett said. "I am always glad to be part of a larger team and to help others succeed in their roles."

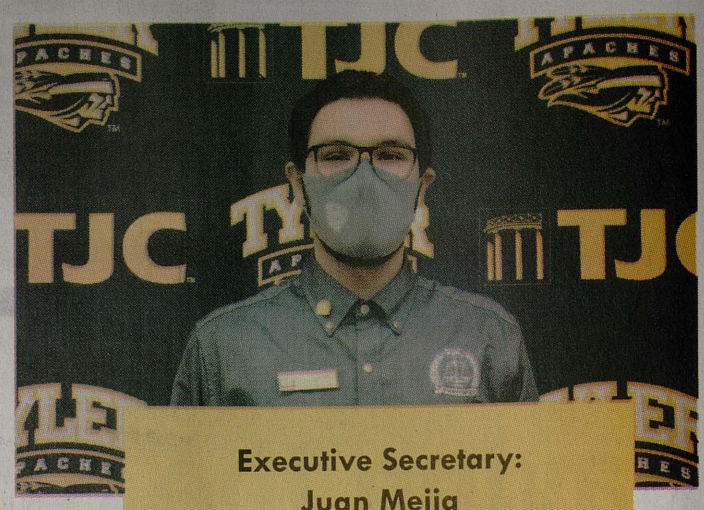
NOMINATE SOMEONE *YOU* THINK IS AN UNSUNG HERO

thedrumbeat.com/unsungheroes



Executive Vice President: Juan Lessar

Executive President: Kaden Phinney



Executive Secretary: Juan Mejia

Student Senate Results

Parliamentarian Alex Mejia

Freshmen President: Riley Edmonson

Freshman Secretary: Samantha McGrew

By Andrea Valdez
Broadcast News Director

Every year, Student Senate holds elections through OrgSync at the beginning of September to elect the new officers for the school year. This year elections were held Sept. 15-16. The newly elected officers were sworn into office at the general meeting through Zoom on Sept. 22. One of the elected officers for the 2020-21 year is Kaden Phinney.

Phinney was elected as executive president of Student Senate. As executive president, Phinney's responsibility is to lead meetings and the executive board. Last year, he served as freshman secretary for the Student Senate.

This is Phinney's second year in Student Senate and also his second year holding an officer position.

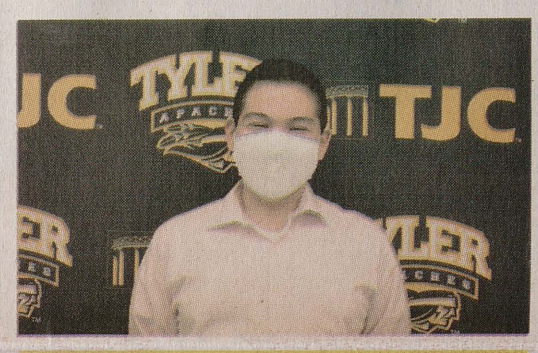
"I ran for this position because I love being a part of Student Senate and I believe I have what it takes to be a leader," Phinney said.

He believes his position is most significant because everyone needs to have a leader. "I look forward to meeting new people and building new relationships while also making TJC a better campus," Phinney said.

Along with his responsibilities, he also has goals he wants to accomplish in this position.

"The number one thing I want to accomplish is to improve student life in a way that will be remembered," Phinney said.

Public Relations Officer: Kaitlynn Crowston



Ambassador of Organizations: Angel Bridgeford

Freshmen Vice President: Emma Caldwell

Sergeant At Arms: Jeremy Singleton

If you are interested in being involved in Student Senate as a senator or committee member, contact 903-510-2797. Student Senate meetings are every Tuesday at 4 p.m. through Zoom.

Financial Aid: Apply by June 1, 2021 deadline

From Page 1

or legal guardian, their caretaker's tax information will be needed to complete the application.

If a change in income has been reported, especially due to COVID-19, TJC offers a Special Conditions request form, which allows students to explain any extenuating circumstances that affect their financial situation. The form must be submitted before a student is awarded financial aid from TJC. This allows the college to review and update financial information submitted through the FAFSA.

"COVID-19 interruptions did not make any changes to how a student completes the financial aid process," said Devon Wiggins, director of financial aid at TJC. "Financial Aid and Apache Enrollment Center staff have continuously worked throughout the pandemic so student awarding was not affected either."

After the FAFSA has been submitted, students should periodically review their financial aid traffic lights on Apache Access. Here, students can submit any additional documentation needed for scholarships and financial aid. Once awarded, this is where individuals can review their aid received for the designated term. Upon accepting their financial aid awards, students must complete a Master Promissory Note as indicated on Apache Access.

"Completion of the FAFSA is not the only step in the financial aid process. Students should receive a FAFSA response email in late December," Wiggins said. "There are additional steps and requirements that must be done in Apache Access for every FAFSA filer, so make sure this next step is completed no later than June 1 – but earlier is better."

For more information on completing the FAFSA, as well as contact information for TJC's financial aid office, visittjc.edu/info/20147/financial_aid. Students may also visit the financial aid office on the first floor of White Administrative Services Center.

FAFSA
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
FEDERAL STUDENT AID

Graphic courtesy of the U.S. Department of Education

On-campus athlete thrives during COVID-19 semester

By Jessica King
Staff Writer

COVID-19 has forced students to adapt to a challenging new way of living, both on and off-campus. For Skylar Parker, a freshman striker for Tyler Junior College's women's soccer team from Katy, Texas, it is unlike any college experience she could have imagined.

Due to COVID-19 guidelines, Parker said, the women's soccer team has not had the opportunity to play any practice games, only routine training. The team must also wear masks when they are in groups or in the weight room. However, Parker reported, "My favorite day [is] Friday because coach would let us scrimmage against each other."

For the past two weeks, a handful of players have had to quarantine and, in compliance with TJC's COVID-19 procedures, team practices came to a halt and only a few women were able to stay in their assigned dorms. According to Parker, "COVID is changing a lot of things," but she believes that she, as well as the rest of the team, are adapting to the situation very well and that TJC has done an amazing job trying to give students "the best experience possible."

Parker also said that when she pictured living on campus, she didn't imagine seeing all of the students walking around with masks on, and many students only go outside when necessary (to go to the cafe, practices, class, etc).

Parker explained how COVID-19 has affected her personal experience at TJC.

Photo courtesy of Skylar Parker

"The biggest way it's affected me, though, is in soccer," Parker said. "I was really excited to come in and practice and play games, but I haven't been able to do too much of that."

Parker describes her normal day as a TJC student and athlete as "pretty jam-packed and a bit hectic at times," but she said, "I wouldn't change anything about it." Parker reported that despite the current challenges, she has loved her time at TJC and "the girls have become my second family," which is enriching her unique college experience even more.

"God has a reason that we are going through this, so we just got to trust him and his plan," Parker said.

Hispanic Heritage Month

A look at influential people throughout history

By Andrea Valdez
Broadcast News Director

Hispanic Heritage Month began as a month of observance on Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 to recognize the accomplishments and influences of the Hispanic community in the U.S. According to the White House Hispanic Prosperity Initiative, it originally began as Hispanic Heritage Week in 1968 under the leadership of President Lyndon Johnson but was later changed to a whole month during Ronald Reagan's term in 1988. In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, let us honor some influential Hispanic figures in entertainment, science, politics and important historical events.

History: Sylvia Mendez

Sylvia Mendez was born in Santa Ana, California, in 1936. When she was a child, Mendez was forced to attend a Hispanic institution instead of being allowed to attend a white school, which had access to better supplies and offered more opportunities. Before Brown v. Board of Education, there was Mendez v. Westminster, which helped pave the way for desegregation in schools. The ruling for the case stated separation of Hispanic students was unconstitutional and violated the 14th Amendment. After finishing high school, Mendez attended the University of California Riverside and continued her work in activism. In 2011, Mendez was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by former president Barack Obama for her advancement in civil rights and education for Black, Indigenous and people of color. She lives in California but has since retired.

Politics: Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez

Elected in 2019, Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez works to serve the working class and those whose voices have been silenced by government. Before becoming a congresswoman, Ocasio-Cortez grew from humble beginnings and when tragedy struck her family after her father's death, she worked to support her family as a waitress and bartender after graduating from Boston University.

In the span of a year, Ocasio-Cortez went from bar tending to becoming one of the youngest congresswomen. In 2016, she worked as a volunteer organizer for the Bernie Sanders campaign. She continues to share her platform of activism for equal rights and advocacy for environmental and economic justice.

Science: Ellen Ochoa

NASA astronaut Ellen Ochoa became the first Mexican-American woman to go on a nine-day mission to space. Ochoa grew up in La Mesa, California, and attended Stanford University, earning her doctorate in electrical engineering. She began working for NASA in 1988 and in 1990 she was chosen to become an astronaut, making history as the first Hispanic to go to space. According to the NASA website, while working at NASA, Ochoa earned the Distinguished Service Medal and the Presidential Distinguished Rank Award for senior executives in federal government.

Ochoa currently resides in Texas with her husband and two children.

Entertainment: Eugenio Derbez

Born in Mexico City, Mexico, Eugenio Derbez dominates in entertainment not only as an actor and comedian in front of the camera, but also as a filmmaker behind the camera.

Derbez is most notably known for his work in Mexican comedy TV shows. His most iconic role is as the Cruz Azul-loving patriarch Ludovico P. Luche in the show "Familia P. Luche."

Derbez has also starred in movies such as "Bajo la Misma Luna," "Instructions Not Included" and "Overboard." He has also done voiceover work for cartoons, guest starring as Ronnie Anne's father in the Nickelodeon spin-off show "The Casagrandes."

Text graphic by Sorayda Rivera and Andrea Valdez

Killough, Slocum Massacres reveal dark side of East Texas history shrouded in controversy

By Madison Heiser
Editor-in-Chief

The 182nd anniversary of the Killough Massacre near Jacksonville, Texas, fell on Oct. 5. The 1838 slaying of 18 settlers by individuals in Native American attire is still shrouded in mystery – responsibility for the murders is still under speculation, with some blaming the local Native population and others claiming the perpetrators were disguised in Native clothing.

According to the Texas State Historical Association, Isaac Killough and his family settled in Cherokee Country from Alabama in Dec. 1837. The settlement came after a treaty between Sam Houston and the Cherokee population, which designated tracts of land to the Native Americans, was nullified. The Killough family built a settlement and planted crops to harvest in the coming fall. However, when they returned from a period in Nacogdoches to harvest, they were attacked by a band of hostiles dressed as Cherokee Natives. Isaac Killough and 18 others were captured and/or killed.

Local authorities believed the murders to be committed by individuals from the local Cherokee tribe. The Republic of Texas Army later located a group believed to be the perpetrators at an old Kickapoo village; 11 band members were killed in retaliation.

Some individuals believe the massacre was a setup to remove the Cherokee population from the area. The event was only one in a slew of conflicts that incited the Cherokee war in 1839. According to KLTV, a stone monument was erected in the 1930s to commemorate the event, while a historical marker placed in 1965 blames the Cherokee population for the attack.

Nearly 70 years later, another mysterious attack occurred in Slocum, Texas, against the local Black community. According to the Texas Public Radio, on July 29, 1910, a shooting broke out near Sadler Creek in Anderson County. Three Black teenagers were attacked by a group of armed white men, killing one and injuring the others. Over the next 48 hours, a mob of white perpetrators made their way through the woods, killing unarmed Black individuals on sight. The total death toll is still speculated, but newspaper reports estimated between eight and 22 murders. Anecdotal evidence points to death tolls of up to 200, according to NPR.

The identities of the attackers, as well as the motivation behind the attacks, are unclear. The county sheriff at the time of the massacre, William Black, said he was unable to determine the cause. Seven indictments were initially handed down, but no attackers were prosecuted or convicted.

Currently, no historical marker or monument stands to commemorate the Slocum Massacre. Some community members speculate the attacks never actually happened, while some descendants of the reported victims continue to fight for local recognition of the event. Despite opposition from some county officials, the massacre was officially recognized by the state of Texas in January 2016.

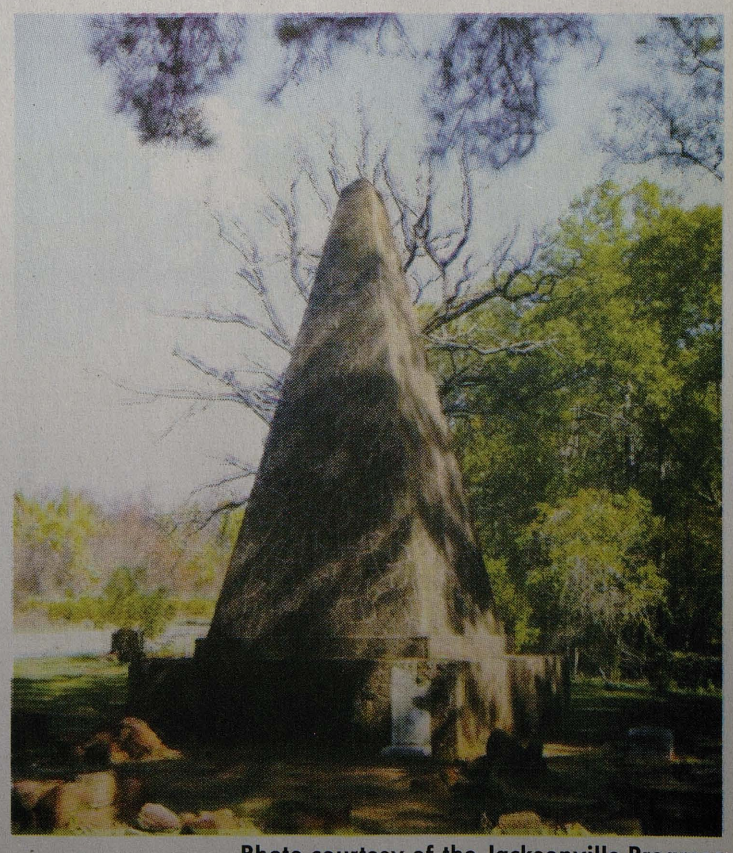
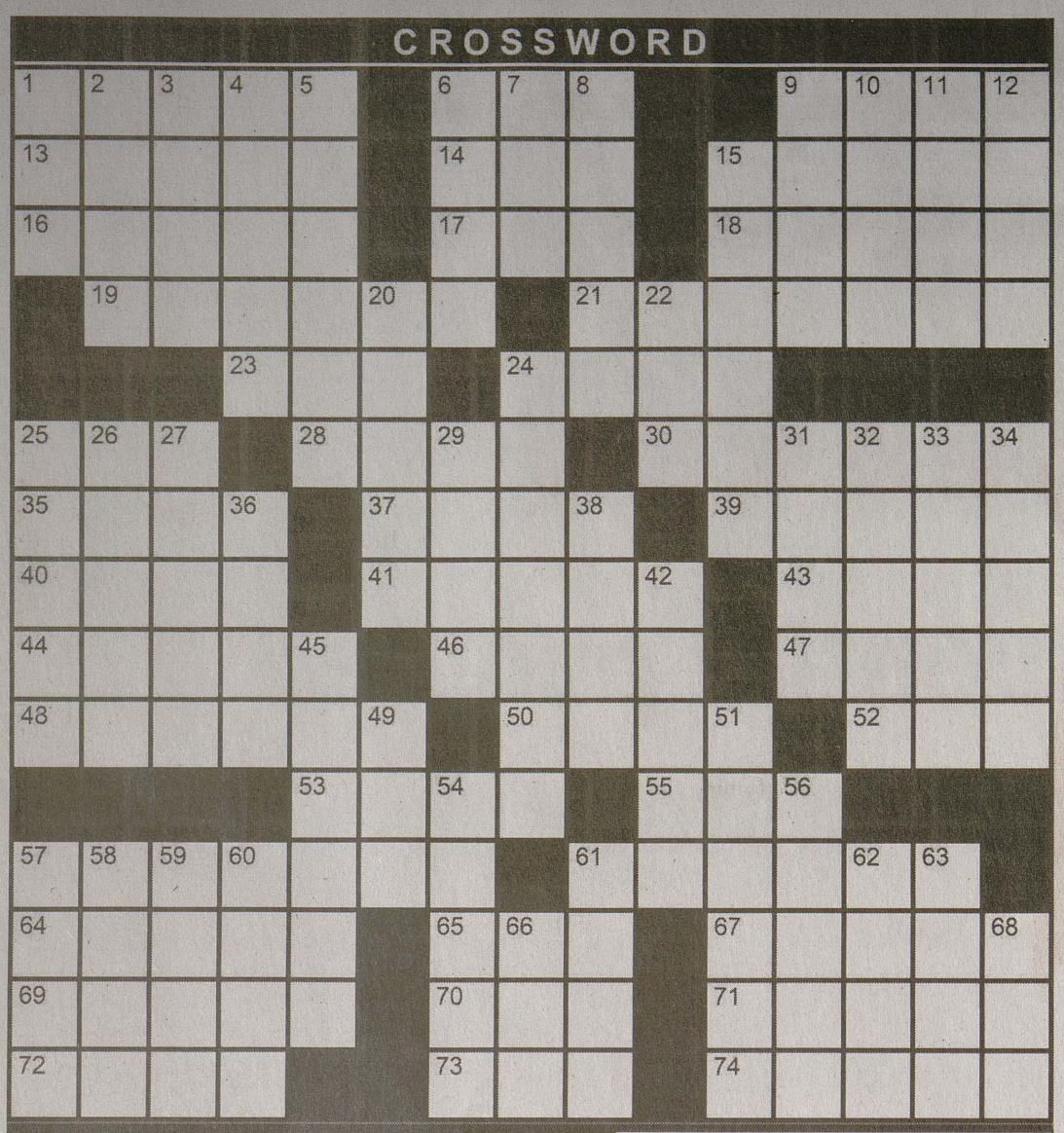


Photo courtesy of the Jacksonville Progress

A monument near Jacksonville commemorates the Killough Massacre. It stands near a graveyard where the victims were buried, along with a descriptive historical marker erected in 1965.

THEME: In the Kitchen

CROSSWORD



© StatePoint Media

ACROSS

1. Capital of Ghana
6. Paris in Tour de France
9. Wild ox of India
13. Admiral's group
14. "Mele Kalikimaka" wreath
15. Julian Barnes' "The ____ of an Ending"
16. Telephone company
17. Acronym in a bottle
18. Birth-related
19. *Set briefly on fire
21. *Separate solids from fat in melted butter
23. *Crusty dessert
24. Uncouth person
25. Westminster broadcaster, acr.
28. Coffee break spot
30. *Scald quickly in boiling water
35. Like desert
37. Like Civil War reenactment battle
39. *Like old chips
40. Delhi dress
41. Subculture language
43. *Good or bad it emanates from stoves
44. "As the World ____"
46. Like Jekyll and Hyde's personality
47. This over matter?
48. Encryption device, a.k.a. ____ machine
50. Practice in the ring
52. Low-____ image
53. Competitive advantage
55. NBA coach "____" Rivers
57. *Dissolve browned food bits with liquids
61. *Thicken by simmering
64. Love, to Catherine Deneuve
65. Pigeon sound
67. Pianist's exercise
69. Resembling a fish
70. Hawaiian Mauna
71. Smart candy?
72. Tire swing holder
73. Bruin legend Bobby
74. *Yummy reward

SUDOKU

			5					
4	3						5	
				3		4	6	8
6	5			2	8			4
			3		5			
9			4	7			1	5
8	7	2		4				
	9						8	7
					2			

© StatePoint Media

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

DOWN

1. Back of the boat
2. Staff symbol
3. Text messenger
4. Short version
5. Like number 1 to hydrogen
6. Besides
7. Opposite of paleo-
8. '70s music genre
9. Wheel in grandfather clock
10. ____-perspirant
11. Defender of skies
12. Count on
15. Growls angrily
20. What lighthouse does
22. Williams sister's return
24. On account of
25. *Turkey action
26. Hitler's Eva
27. Wispy clouds
29. *Incorporate an ingredient
31. Niels Bohr's study object
32. Rock bottom
33. Star Wars attacker
34. Shepherds' flocks
36. Sound at door
38. ____sack
42. Clearing in the woods
45. Viscous
49. Wood-shaping tool
51. Capybara, e.g.
54. GEICO's mascot
56. Like a button, but more so
57. Cuckoo
58. Dubai dignitary
59. Departed
60. Debussy's "Clair de ____"
61. Serengeti sound
62. *Preserve by adding salt
63. Old Norse texts
66. "____ the ramparts..."
68. D.C. time

Crossword and Sudoku solutions will be online at thedrumbeat.com.

Review: 'Akira' mesmerizing after 32 years

Graphic by Michael Bald

By Chris Crymes
Staff Writer

After over 30 years, the original anime masterwork, "Akira," has made its triumphant return to theatres with an all new 4K remaster. I'll admit I was already looking forward to the opportunity to see this film in theatres, but by the time I saw the iconic neon trails emanating from the central gang's tail lights, I knew this 4K upscale was something special.

Allow me to take a brief technical step back. The main difference between 4K/Ultra HD and standard definition is 4K has roughly four times the number of pixels making up the image you see. This makes your image sharper and gives much more potential for detail. Also, 4K releases often come with scaling up the framerate of a film to 30 or 60 frames per second to achieve a combined crisp, smooth package.

This combination presents a problem for animated films, whose modern 3D animated features run at 24 frames per second at their fastest. Meaning scaling an animated feature up to 4K resolution doesn't really work since an old school, hand drawn, animated film runs at even slower framerates. Some animated classics run as low as 12 frames per second, but even the pieces of animation that run at 24 frames per second aren't ready to be scaled up due to the film grain of animation cells.

This is where "Akira" comes in to play. "Akira" not only originally released running at 24 frames per second, but the film's grand, sweeping depictions of Neo-Tokyo are large and detailed enough to be perfectly scaled up to a 4K theatrical release.

With all the technical talk out of the way, "Akira" still delivers all of the drama, the action and the science fiction insanity it delivered when I first saw it when I was 14. Every time I return to this movie I expect to be either bored or let down, but the story of transformation rockets through the film's two-hour runtime with break neck pace. It leaves you no room to breathe as it goes from the aforementioned biker gang chases to psychedelic hospital trips to the full-scale collapse of a city, all in gorgeous animated detail.

This new release also offers some audio touch ups, giving detailed focus on the intricate sounds of a broken city. Leaking pipes dripping into an empty alley. Pills clanking into glass cups. Bullets noisily loaded into their magazines. The million tiny audio details meld with the meticulous visual design to present possibly the most fully realized animated world of all time.

The film's new theatrical run may be fleeting, but if you miss it, fear not! "Akira's" 4K release comes to your home this holiday season, so keep an eye out!

REVIEW

'Enola Holmes': An average case

Photo courtesy of Legendary Pictures
Graphic by Molly Swisher

By Michael Bald
Entertainment Editor

So, I guess it's safe to say mainstream movies are officially gone from theatres the rest of the year, leaving audiences at the mercy of streaming services to keep us going until the 2020 crisis is over. However, like mainstream movies, there will be streaming movies that are good, bad and just meh.

And therein lies "Enola Holmes" on Netflix.

While there are many issues with this film, it does not fail in all aspects. Millie Bobby Brown once again is proving herself to be one of the best young actresses working today. Even where aspects of the script can lack, she has such a charming aura around her that you can't help but watch. I, unfortunately, can't say this for the rest of the cast.

The most bizarre casting choice in my opinion was Henry Cavill as Sherlock Holmes. While the character is known for his witty comebacks, brilliant thought processes and charming persona, Cavill fails in all aspects. Maybe I have been personally spoiled with Benedict Cumberbatch and Robert Downey Jr.'s portrayals of the character, or Cavill just had the charisma of a wet brick. I know the movie revolves around Enola, but the fact that Cavill had one of the most iconic characters in fiction and did nothing special with it was disappointing.

But, where this movie lacks the most is Enola's journey. Sherlock's character is a brilliant, skilled individual who is extremely flawed in practical manners. He doesn't understand societal and human emotions. He's kind of a robot.

At the beginning of the movie, Enola is set up as an individual who knows nothing of the outside world because she lives in a house with only her mother. Whenever she goes out on her adventure, one would guess it would be something of a fish-out-of-water scenario and she would have to learn aspects of the real world to complete her arc as a character. But she never has any issues throughout the movie. She has the same skills and intellect of Sherlock, but understands people and their emotions. A storyline without any flaw can be boring to watch since she's not really growing as a character.

The film also felt a little preachy at times. Since the film revolves around a girl, it added a feminist message that felt shoved in there just to be "woke." Now just because it wants to empower women doesn't make it bad. Some of my favorite characters from movies and T.V. shows were women who overcame adversity such as Pam Beesly from "The Office," Sarah Conner from "The Terminator" or The Bride from "Kill Bill."

But those characters had one thing that Enola didn't, flaws. And without those, it made her an unrelatable and preachy person who acted like she was better than you for always doing the right thing, which can get old after a while.

Review: 'Citizen Kane' stands the test of time, remains a staple cinema classic

Photo courtesy of RKO Pictures

By Chris Crymes
Staff Writer

"Citizen Kane" - the name itself brings up your stuffy friend or relative who is too into the movies of yesteryear. While these fans of the films of yesteryear like movies, the thought of a new release bring up a rant. "They don't make 'em like they used to!" — they belt at you, and you remember why you don't participate in conversations with anyone who calls a movie a "film." They immediately ostracize you for the idea of "old movies."

Honestly, this whole debacle is what I hate about being a "movie person." As soon as you mention a movie from before 1990, you're sure to get eye rolls from your peers. The overbearing gatekeepers of "film" have made even the idea of watching an older movie a labor. Most people I talk to see haven't seen something like Alfred Hitchcock's "Psycho" or Francis Ford Coppola's "The Godfather" because they think they'd be bored, so they never give them a chance. Well, I think a lot of these classics have some incredibly pertinent themes and characters who are very relevant to what we still go through today. So, I'd like to make a case for watching what is considered the greatest filmmaking achievement of all time: "Citizen Kane."

One thing that might be more interesting than the film itself is the historical context of the film. Director and co-writer Orson Welles made this movie about possibly the biggest, most wealthy media magnate in history, father of yellow journalism; William Randolph Hearst.

Hearst had the largest newspaper empire in history and he used it to such an extent that Hearst instigated the Spanish-American War, which is something even referenced in the film. Welles sought out to make a film about the man who Hearst was and to show the faults of this giant façade.

This director, with his first film, wanted to take on the head of the world's largest media empire with a movie. Hearst was less than thrilled when he caught wind of the this. Going as far as to threaten the shutdown of theatres who played the film. New research for the 2016 book, "Citizen Kane: A Filmmaker's Journey," found Hearst and his organizations used extortion, media manipulation and more to keep the film from being made. Welles and his team stood strong and finished their film against all odds and a mountain of production costs.

Orson Welles made a movie to reveal a media mogul as the deeply flawed individual he was. So, what? None of that matters if the movie is "old timey!" Well, it's a good thing "Citizen Kane" is an incredibly modern movie to have released in 1941, a full four months before America's involvement in World War II.

It was a spectacle for a moving sequence to take place in a movie, but then came "Citizen Kane" with its moving shots, and flashbacks literally framed inside the scene they're being recalled from. This sent audiences' brains through the high-vaulted ceilings of their red curtained theatres. Not only that, but after Hearst's smear campaigns the film had a reputation. It was now, "the film that the media doesn't want you to see." So, of course it became sought after, and when people started to see it they couldn't help but talk about its charm, performances and scale.

On the topic of performances, one has to bring up Orson Welles himself. This man went from theatrical productions to directing, co-writing and starring in the biggest production of its time. Even with all this pressure, the man kills it as the titular Charles Foster Kane. Compellingly ranging from Kane's 20's to his elderly death bed, Welles masterfully crafted Kane to be as real as the man he based him on.

This being said, I have to stress the importance of a team in filmmaking. A man is not an island and nowhere is that truer than in movies. One person does not make a film, and "Citizen Kane" is no different in that fact. The film goes down as Orson Welles' personal achievement and that is a true disservice to everyone else involved. From now looked over performances from then-newcomers Joseph Cotton and Dorothy Comingore, to the cinematography by Gregg Toland, this production is littered with boatloads of talent.

Take a look at the past few years. Long standing members of the entertainment industry like Bill Cosby and Harvey Weinstein have been revealed to have been using their public influence to take advantage of practically anyone they wanted to, famous or not. The president, who was elected on promises of standing up for the working man, has been revealed to pay fewer taxes than our professors. We live in a world of Charles Foster Kanes. Abusers of power who believe what Kane believed: "People will think what I tell them to think," and this is a film from 80 years ago that tries its hardest to fight against that.

I personally think the purpose of art is to make you feel, whether that be fear, love, anxiety, etc. It's even better when a piece of media can give an audience insight. I believe a movie made to reveal and inform as well as to delight and inspire is just as important as it is entertaining. "Citizen Kane" used to be absent from streaming services, due to the tenuous nature of the film's rights, but it has now found a home on HBO Max. So, if any of this sounds interesting to you, seek out "Citizen Kane" either there, by renting it digitally on Amazon Prime Video, or by supporting our local video store Entertainmart. It'll be well worth your while.

Photo by Sorayda Rivera

Posters of different events are posted on a bulletin in Rogers Student Center. Organizations use these posters to spread the word about student involvement opportunities on campus.

Student Life and Involvement makes friendships, builds campus connections

By Sorayda Rivera
Student Life Editor

For students wanting to get more involved with student life at school or just looking for something to do, Tyler Junior College has more than 40 organizations to choose from. The Green Committee, Hispanic Student Organization, International Game Developers Association and Student Senate are some groups students can join.

TJC's Student Life and Involvement offers avenues of exploration of varied interests and integrates the culture of school spirit and tradition. It can help students develop in areas of learning, leadership, and interpersonal and organizational growth.

There are so many reasons to get involved with campus life, said Director of Student Life Lauren Tyler. It's more than just joining clubs or holding events and leadership training, or joining the cheer team, it's about making connections. "Connection is key," Tyler said.

John Wofford, a chemistry major at TJC said he decided to get involved with student life to "get plugged in on campus and get the full college experience."

"By getting involved with student life, I was able to fill in some of the gaps in my schedule with activities and clubs that I enjoy," Wofford said. "On top of that, it has given me the opportunity to build friendships with people who hold similar interests, as well as make connections with different people across campus."

Wofford is involved with the Apache Chiefs, New Student Orientation Leaders, a student leader at the Baptist Student Ministry, a member of the Presidential Honors Program, an Apache Belle Guard, was a Ya-A-Te Summer Camp leader, and a member of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society.

"It has given me the opportunity to get involved and active on TJC's campus and has provided me with ample opportunities to make new friends and memories during my time here," Wofford said.

The Center for Student Life and Involvement supports the core values of TJC and enhances the student experience by promoting success inside and outside the classroom. Students go to class to further their education, but Tyler expressed, "the experience outside the classroom is why you stay or why you finish."

"Getting excited about being at TJC and being an Apache and why you bleed black and gold is kind of the thing outside," Tyler said. Tyler added, TJC has great classes and great faculty but those things are only part of a student's day. "We want to help finish the rest of the day," Tyler said.

The center oversees multiple aspects of student life. It has cheer programs, spirit programs, student government and more. All of the clubs, organizations and student activities fall under this office.

"From movie night on the lawn, to the numerous other events the CSLI office has put on, to all the events I've been involved within my organizations, being a part of student life has made my college experience so much more rich and fulfilling," Wofford said.

Student life is also about educational excellence, innovative programming and community partnerships. Tyler said they like to involve the community in different ways by hosting events like drive-in movies, virtual bingo, 50-Gallon Challenge and more.

Tyler mentioned they are trying to get some things going with the City of Tyler. TJC also has faculty and staff who serve in different community organizations. Tyler added they are "trying to strengthen the partnerships because the community does a lot for us. We want to do the same with volunteer work and service and that sort of thing."

Tyler said a lot of the services are all still available at TJC. Students can still join an organization, attend meetings via Zoom, watch Student Senate meetings, do online tutoring and receive online counseling.

Students can get a grasp of what's happening on campus by attending the virtual Senate meetings or visiting OrgSync, TJC's campus engagement platform.

Through this platform, students can join an organization, find contact information, fill out forms, read the latest news and even chat.

Social media is also a way students can stay involved and up-to-date on what is happening with student life. Students can follow TJC, the tutoring center and Student Life on social media. "Get interactive; that way you can find out what's happening," Tyler said.

Wofford encourages students interested in getting involved to "go for it."

"Taking that leap of faith and getting your feet wet can be one of the best things you do for yourself in your college career, and I cannot recommend it enough," Wofford said.

Tyler expressed students should "attend an event, join a club, attend a lecture, go to extracurriculars, go to a game, do something."

"Netflix will always be there, these experiences won't," Tyler said.

For more information on how to get involved, visit orgsync.tjc.edu or the Center for Student Life and Involvement on the second floor of the Rogers Student Center.

Upcoming Events

Virtual Bingo Night
Tuesday, Oct. 13
7 p.m.

Workshops

Creating a Resume
Monday, Oct. 12
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 13
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 15
2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Grammar and Punctuation
Monday, Oct. 19

Punctuation
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 20
Commas
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 22
Grammar
2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

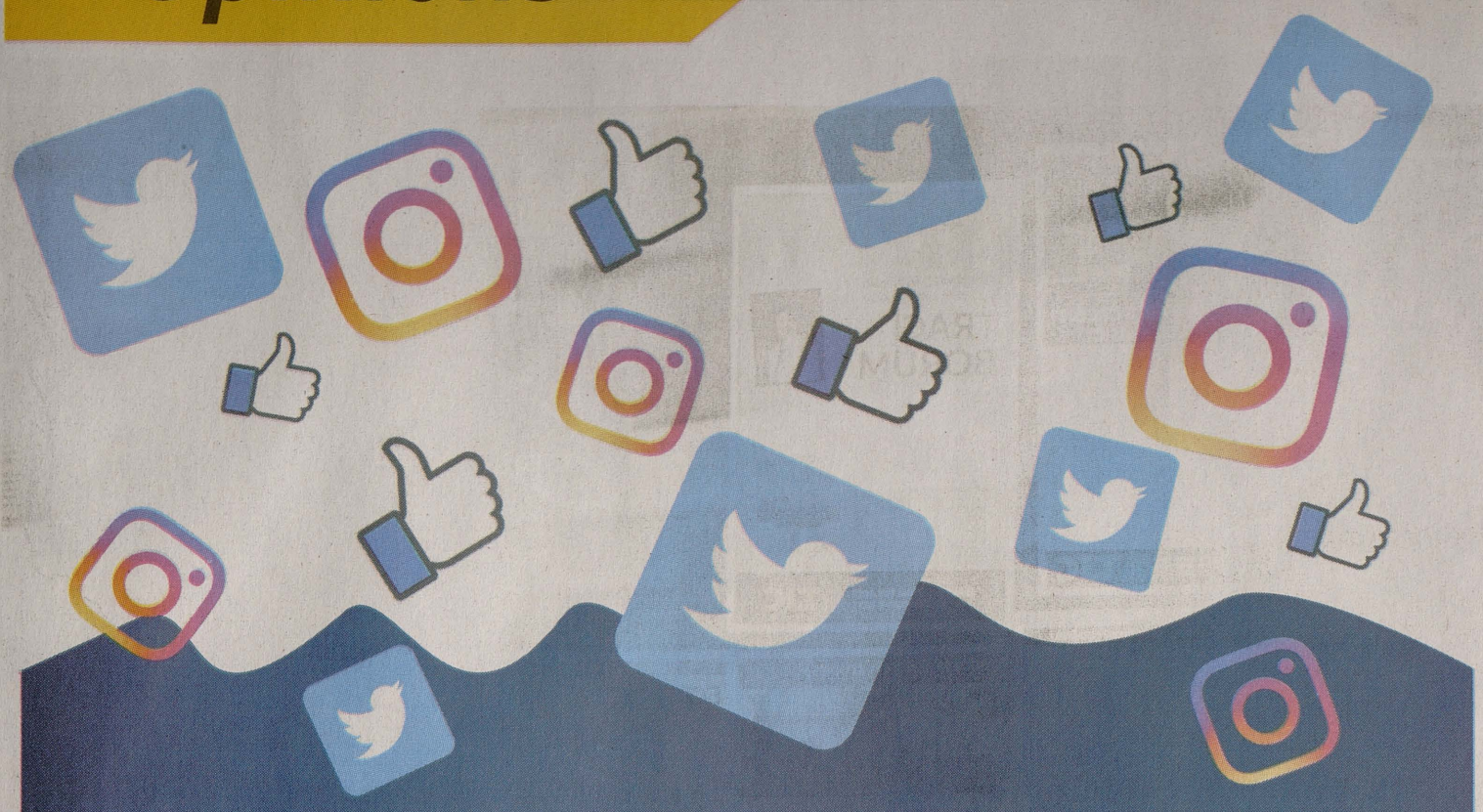
Test Taking Tips
Tuesday, Oct. 13
2:30 - 3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 14
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Reading Strategies for Math and Science
Wednesday, Oct. 14
1 - 2 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 15
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Graphic Organizers
Tuesday, October 20
2:30 - 3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 21
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Reading Strategies for Humanities
Wednesday, Oct. 21
1 - 2 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 22
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

**Events subject to change.*



DROWNING IN SOCIAL MEDIA?

Platforms may damage students' mental health

By Brianna Murphy
Staff Writer

Buzz, buzz — instant gratification! Why are students so attached to social media?

Social media can help students connect, but too much social media usage can damage one's mental health. According to Les Glover, LPC and student counseling director at the University of Texas at Tyler, social media can be both beneficial and damaging.

During the pandemic, students have been practicing social distancing, meaning many are losing personal face-to-face connections. The importance of in-person interaction has never been as treasured as this year. With many classrooms going online and events canceled, many students may face socialization issues. According to a study on social interaction among adolescents in the Journal of Social and Personal Relationships, those "low in in-person social interaction and high in social media use reported the most loneliness."

However, people need to keep in touch with one another, which is where social media and digital technologies come in.

"Social media can provide support systems and keeps you in touch with your personal support system," Glover said. With family and friends far apart, social media has helped students to connect with loved ones.

Although platforms, such as Facebook, can help people keep in touch, too much social media usage can interfere with one's life. Apps like Facebook and Instagram can create a false sense of reality. Profiles are altered to showcase moments that do not reflect the person's real life. Psychology Today states "people directly lie about their lives, which is often an effort to make themselves look more desirable or positive." The presence of multiple online personas is linked to self-confidence issues and loneliness for the onlooker.

"Individuals sometimes look and see all anybody's posting is their perfect world," Glover said. "It can be difficult when you are struggling and when it looks like everyone on your feed has a perfect life."

The Filter Bubble Effect, according to internet activist Eli Pariser, can also be detrimental for students growing new opinions and beliefs. When internet algorithm directs people to biased, opinionated information, which individuals have no control over — they become submerged in their own filter bubble. Overall, this leads to polarized information, with little variety, and can make it difficult to form relationships outside of the cybersphere.

Despite the photos displayed on profiles, the individuals who create them may be under stress and hide their problems through their fake image online.

Social media is addicting because of instant gratification and the need for attention. Additionally, because of phones being with users throughout the day, it can become a coping mechanism. Washington State University claims the fear of missing out can be linked to "social anxiety that other people are having fun without you."

Continually checking on social media throughout the day in hopes of keeping in touch with others is a double-edged sword as users slowly closing off the world around oneself. Not only does this cause emotional distress, but can make some individuals feel depressed, worthless and isolated.

The healthy amount of social media is different for everyone, according to Glover. The younger generation relies on social media more to maintain friendships and meet new people. Therefore, students may have a higher tolerance level to social media platforms when compared to the older generation, Glover elaborated.

Social media becomes a problem when "it interferes with your ability to interact in your world," Glover said. When social media disrupts with daily activities or prevents concentration it becomes problematic.

Additionally, the contacts and followers can be toxic and cause relationship problems outside of networking sites. Psychology Today emphasizes when dealing with online toxic friends, "it's smart to trust your intuition and put some distance between you and that person." Regardless whether online or in person, toxic relationships can destroy the wellbeing of the abused.

Glover said students who are "finding yourself being more depressed, having problems sleeping, being more anxious, putting yourself down, feeling worthless," then there might be an issue. "You need to look into how much that is being influenced by time on social media," Glover said.

Glover encourages students who struggle finding the perfect balance of social media to identify priorities. Students who struggle to put down the phone should keep their goals and priorities in mind. Glover believes students should focus on "building some time for yourself," and establish healthy boundaries with social media.

Graphic by Madison Heiser

Column: Selective support can sabotage relationships

By Mary Mone
Online Editor

In the words of Marilyn Monroe, "If you can't handle me at my worst, then you don't deserve me at my best." I have been thinking about the contents of this quote a lot recently. Normally, it is said in some weird way on Facebook by a girl who probably, ironically, isn't at her best. I think it's a way of expressing a very particular emotion that not a lot of people talk about.

Each of us knows someone who struggles but works extremely hard to make ends meet, whether that be with their time, their money or their goals. They are often labeled as "too busy" or "missing in action" by those around them.

I don't know exactly what to call this emotion, but it is something like feeling discouraged after receiving selective support. Many are happy to support someone who has accomplished great things, but when it comes to supporting someone who is staying up late, waking up early, working long hours and having a hard time being present in all facets of their life at once, they are put in this weird box of non-accomplishment or unimportance.

Goals will fade and many may start to feel like their aspirations are unreachable if they are constantly surrounded by non-support. According to Dr. Diana Raab on psychologytoday.com, "We cannot underestimate the importance of surrounding ourselves with positive thinkers and good relationships, living in a thriving environment, embracing each day, and working on yourself by understanding what brings you joy, what makes your heart sing, and what emotional triggers set you down a negative or unhealthy path."

So yes, even though the Marilyn Monroe quote can most often make us uncomfortable, I think it has some truth to it. If I can't share my struggle with someone, I don't necessarily wish to share my success with them. Struggle creates character, and it's not fair to only support someone who has completed the goal, finished the product or aced the test.

Jim Stovall is a bestselling author who has insight into struggle that I think is extremely valuable. "Struggles often serve to release the wisdom, patience and strength we all possess but too seldom demonstrate," Stovall said.

So, instead of labeling a person as "too busy" or "missing in action" just because they don't have time to do everything at once, let's tell them that we are proud of them for putting in hard work and being dedicated to their goals. Let's show them they deserve the praise through the struggle.

Column: California wildfires devastate second homeland

By Emily Niebuhr
Student Life Editor

California has a place in my heart with their culture and people. Anytime I can go there to see family, it is special, and I cherish those moments.

However, when I hear about the wildfires that have been raging since late summer, my heart breaks because I feel like California is my home away from home.

"Since the beginning of the year, there have been 8,100 wildfires that have burned well over 3.9 million acres in California and over 96,000 residents are evacuated across the state," according to fire.ca.gov. Seeing beautiful California burning up and knowing the place I love is becoming a natural disaster, makes me sad.

Also, fire.ca.gov states "California historically experiences some of the most devastating wildfires in the months of September and October."

California wildfire seasons are deadly and devastating. Several summers ago, I went to California with my mom to visit my brother and sister-in-law. We visited places that weeks later were damaged by wildfires. It was sad to see those places burned, and luckily, we did not have to witness the destruction.

California has yearly wildfires, but 2018 was the worst of them. According to California Gov. Gavin Newsom, "this fire season has been very active."

I'm thankful that I have the pictures of the places that were destroyed by the fires. It is crazy to hear that this year the wildfires are way worse than several years ago. Just hearing that is heartbreaking, especially when you have family living there saying they can see smoke from their place. My heart goes out to the victims who have lost everything, the people who have died and the brave firefighters out there fighting to put out the fires.

To stay updated on where the wildfires are and where they have been contained, visit fire.ca.gov.

Here are some ways to donate to help California victims affected by the wildfires:

disasterphilanthropy.org
redcross.org
salvationarmy.org
wff.givecloud.co

Erin Emmert works as a barista at Brady's Coffee.

Photos by Chris Swann

Coffee shops & Study spots

By Mary Mone
Online Editor

Study spots on the Tyler Junior College campus are plentiful, such as the library, the tables in Jenkins and even the outside furniture along the walkways, but if students ever want different study scenery, there are multiple coffee shops and parks in Tyler that would welcome anyone.

Cafe 1948 is not only located in the heart of Tyler — the Square — but it is also home to juices, coffees, an organic market and freshly made food. With humble beginnings, Cafe 1948 started in a Boles Aero trailer built in 1948.

Chris French, the coffee bar manager at Cafe 1948, said it is a good place to study, but it does not come without its flaws.

"We do have some drawbacks as far as outlet availability and overall seating space. We have our long table at the front that is full of power outlets and can seat up to nine people, and we also have a communal space with the building," French said. "If you want to come vibe and your laptop is all charged up and you can sit wherever, I think that's great. If you can secure a spot next to an outlet, you can sit here for hours."

French said the "big city vibe" that Cafe 1948 has attracts a varied demographic of people. Because there is such a varied demographic, Cafe 1948 is good for students who want to study without the interruption of seeing many people they may know.

The Foundry, which is located right off the Square in Tyler, is a nonprofit created by Bethel Bible Church that was founded as a place to foster community. According to the website, foundry-coffee.com, "The Foundry is a nonprofit that gives back to local and overseas organizations."

Not only is The Foundry a good study spot, but they also have live music performances, according to foundry-coffee.com. "We value the beauty that art and music can bring to any moment and feature local artists and musicians every month," as stated on the website.

The large floor plan of this coffee house not only allows for distance between people so one can focus, but also students are a big group of people who come in to stay, according to Ryan Huddle, a barista at The Foundry.

Brady's Coffee is another coffee shop in Tyler. Tucked away just off Broadway in the Azalea District, Brady's is the oldest coffee shop in town.

As stated by bradyscoffee.com, "Brady's Coffee Shop opened our doors to you in 1996 and for the last 24 years our focus has always been on a quality cup of coffee and a sanctuary from the noisy outside world."

Erin Emmert, a barista at Brady's, says the environment that is created at the shop is great for studying.

"It's the best place to study because of the environment we create. You're not allowed to talk on cell phones inside," Emmert said. "We like to keep the volume down and we play really soothing music."

They play music like opera and Gregorian chants. Though there are only three outlets, if your work is reading or your laptop is fully charged, a stop at Brady's can be a great idea for some alone time.

Not only are coffee shops great for studying, but there is also a local park that can be used for perfect focus spots. Bergfeld Park, located along Broadway, has open areas for picnicking and laying a blanket out.

According to visittyler.com, "This neighborhood park offers picnic areas, restrooms, tennis courts, a playground, an amphitheater and 'Splasher' the Dolphin Fountain sprayground."

With midterms coming around the corner, it is helpful to have backup study spots off campus, and local coffee shops and parks provide a great place for students to go.

Above: Ryan Huddle serves coffee to customers at The Foundry.

Right: Bags of tea and coffee are sold at Brady's Coffee. The oldest coffee shop in Tyler, Brady's is located just off Broadway on W. Rusk Street.

Chris French manages the coffee bar at Cafe 1948.

The DrumBeat is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press and the College Media Association, 2020

FIRST COPY FREE
Additional copies may be purchased for 50 cents each by contacting the TJC journalism office. Newspaper theft is a crime. Those who violate the single copy rule may be subject to civil and criminal prosecution and/or subject to university discipline.

ADVERTISING
The DrumBeat accepts advertising at the rate of $5 per column-inch. To request a copy of *The Drumbeat*'s advertising rate card with submission guidelines, policies and deadlines call 903-510-2299.

CORRECTIONS POLICY
The DrumBeat strives to provide accurate information and welcomes comments, suggestions, and/or complaints about errors that warrant correction. Messages about news coverage can be e-mailed to news@thedrumbeat.com. Letters to the editor may be e-mailed to news@thedrumbeat.com, delivered to Potter 204 or faxed to 903-510-3246.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
The Drumbeat invites its readers to share views by writing letters to the editor. All contributions will be edited for grammar, spelling, length (300 words maximum), profanity and personal attacks. All letters must include the author's name, address, telephone number and academic classification. Editors reserve the right to deny publication of any letter. Letters should be emailed to: news@thedrumbeat.com or brought to Jenkins 1114B.

© *The DrumBeat* 2020
All rights reserved. *The DrumBeat*, the student newspaper of Tyler Junior College, is published by journalism students biweekly during the fall and spring terms except during holidays and final exams. *The DrumBeat* is a student publication and the opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the administration, faculty, staff or the adviser.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Madison Heiser

ONLINE EDITOR
Mary Mone

BROADCAST NEWS DIRECTOR
Andrea Valdez

ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
DESIGN EDITOR
Michael Bald

STUDENT LIFE EDITORS
Sorayda Rivera
Emily Niebuhr

PHOTO EDITOR
Cassidy Winborn

FACULTY ADVISER
Kasi Dickerson